Suite 3038
11 West 42nd Street
New York 36, New York
August 20th, 1959

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Miss Julie Medlock
The Fern Hill Palace
Ootacamund
The Nilgiris
South India

Dear Julie:

Thank you for yours of August 8th.

I am sorry to see that we have entirely different conceptions so far as the business of agent is concerned. Obviously, I cannot and would not handle any author unless I feel that his work is important enough a contribution to culture that it is worth my time and effort to try to make it available to the greatest number of people. Once an author has come to me, shown me his work and I decide that I want to take it on, there is no need, practical or cultural, for me to chase after the author. My job then is to introduce the right people to the manuscript.

Now as to your specific questions. I do not remember Tom Yoseloff's calling me or my talking to him about the manuscript. I have only talked to the Harper people about it and subsequently to Pantheon who publish the Bollingen series with a view to the Bollingen arrangement. Yesterday Pantheon told me that they have not yet heard from Bollingen but they will try to get some word from them although everybody is on vacation until the end of the summer.

As to the future of His Highness' manuscript, I really don't know what to say. As I have told you, I am no expert on the aesthetics of Indian philosophy. Nor do I know what is needed except that I recognize that His Highness' book seems to be an important one. The Harper educational department is certainly one of the best in the country and one might be inclined to accept their judgment as to the need for such a book by students of higher education. The economics of publishing in general do necessitate a reasonable market for any book a commercial undertaking would put on the market. The university presses, too, do publish books of limited circulation but chiefly the result of scientific or cultural inquiry by their own faculty members. The grants under which they operate are severely circumscribed; and the purposes clearly defined.

If you and His Highness wish me to continue to handle the book, should it be declined by Pantheon-Bollingen, then I would have to do so soberly and in my own manner. This would consist of showing it to those university or other presses who might be interested in the general cultural area, giving them as much time as they wish to have to consider it (usually a manuscript submitted to a university press is not decided upon inside of three months at the earliest) and go on that way. But if you wish an agent to make a 'cause celebre' of this book, I'm afraid I'm not your man.

Kind personal regards.

Sanford J. Greenburger

SJG/r

JCW: Any news from the Rockefeller's re the book and the aesthetics group? Greenburger appears to me to be a COMPLETE frost. Certainly I gave no indication to him that we wanted any spectacular treatment, as the book does not call for it. But

(over)

it does call for some action. I don't have my files here to check, but I think we got the book to him in January, and giving him at least until your arrival in New York to read it and think about it, he has had four months for work. In that time he has only submitted it to Harpers - a contact which I developed for him, on which he merely followed up. And thereafter, to Bollingen, , also my personal contact, for him. As to Tom Yoseloff, he himself was interested in my description of your manuscript and took the initiative to call and ask to see it - an event Greenburger does not even remember -!! - Tom wrote that "After talking to Greenburger, it seems the book is probably not for me." I have written Yoseloff further that nevertheless I want him to read it and give us his advice, as a Publisher - you have a carbon of that letter, and I am now awaiting his reply. He may be in the London office, so we have to be patient. In my experience, this is the strange way agents act. I know that all the obstacles they accept can be gotten around, and I have done it so consistently that nobody can tell me what needs to be done! Well...if you shelve Greenburger, what then? Especially if I am not here to follow through on these matters ?

Please let me hear what you decide to do and if you are writing Greenburger direct or wish me to do so?

Julie

9/5/59